

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /024 W

----- 102635

R 290742Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 11

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY WASHDC

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 2964

STATE FOR EA/IMS AND LEGAL ADVISER

DEPT OF ARMY FOR SURGEON-GENERAL (TSG) AND COMMANDER

MEDICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMAND

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TBIO MY US

SUBJ: MEDICAL RESEARCH UNIT AGREEMENT

REF: A) STATE 078380

B) KL 0812

C) KL 0811

1. IN REFS B) AND C), THE EMBASSY FORWARDED THE TEXT OF A PROPOSAL NOTE FORMALIZING THE STATUS OF THE U.S. ARMY RESEARCH UNIT IN MALAYSIA WHICH, WE WERE INFORMED BY A SINCE DEPARTED SENIOR FOREIGN MINISTRY (MFA) OFFICIAL, HAD BEEN APPROVED AT THE SUB-CABINET LEVEL IN THE GOVT OF MALAYSIA (GOM). REF A) AUTHORIZED THE EMBASSY TO SIGN SUCH AN AGREEMENT SO LONG AS THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE DEPARTURE FROM THE TEXT OF REF C).

2. UPON RECEIPT OF REF A, THE EMBASSY CONTACTED THE OFFICER NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR U.S. AFFAIRS, M.M. SATHIAH, PRINCIPAL ASST SECRETARY FOR AMERICA AND EUROPE. SATHIAH INVESTIGATED THE STATUS OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT NOTE AND REPORTED THAT IT WAS BEING STRONGLY OPPOSED BY THE ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT (EPU) OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPT, APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO FREE ENTRY OF AUTOMOBILES AND

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HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS. THE TREASURY REPORTEDLY ALSO HAS

REVERSED ITS EARLIER CLEARANCE AND IS BACKING THE EPU
CRITICISMS.

3. (FYI. THE EPU, WHICH HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL FOREIGN
TECHNICAL COOPERATION INCLUDING PEACE CORPS, MAY HAVE THEN
ASKED TO REVIEW THE AGREEMENT BEFORE IT WAS SUBMITTED TO
THE CABINET. SINCE THE TERMS OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
ARRANGEMENT WITH USAMRU DIFFER FROM THOSE STANDARDIZED BY
EPU THEY MAY HAVE CRITICIZED IT AS POTENTIALLY PRECEDENT
SETTING.)

4. IN ORDER TO TRY AND BRING ABOUT DIRECT AND SEMI-FORMAL
CONSULTATIONS TO SETTLE THIS MATTER, THE EMBASSY HAS SUB-
MITTED A NOTE TO THE MFA (TEXT BY POUCH) PROPOSING DESIGNA-
TION OF A SPECIFIC NEGOTIATOR ON THE MALAYSIAN SIDE. WE
PLAN TO HAVE OUR ADMIN COUNSELLOR REPRESENT THE U.S. SIDE.
WE WILL REPORT THE GOM'S REACTION WHEN IT IS RECEIVED.
UNDERHILL

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
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